

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 HA-05 /127 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8048
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

UNCLAS USUN 5097

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, XF
SUBJECT: UNGA: DEBATE ON QUESTION OF PALESTINE

REF: USUN 5056

1. ON NOVEMBER 29 DEBATE ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE
CONTINUED IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY. KUWAIT,
YUGOSLAVIA, AND CHINA MADE STATEMENTS, AND THE SPEECHES
CONTAINED NO SURPRISES.

2. KUWAITI AMB BISHARA STRESSED THAT THE QUESTION OF
PALESTINE IS THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE IN THE MIDDLE EAST
AND THAT "THE U.S. CAN IGNORE THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE FOR
A WHILE BUT NOT INDEFINITELY." BISHARA ASSERTED THAT
PEACE WITHOUT THE PALESTINIANS WOULD BE A "MIRAGE" AND THAT
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WE "SHOULD NOT BUILD A CASTLE IN THE AIR." BISHARA
STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND AN
INDEPENDENT STATE FOR THE PALESTINIANS, AND HE WARNED
AGAINST A "SHORT-TERM AGREEMENT WHICH MAY PROVIDE A
LULL" BUT NOT A DURABLE PEACE. BISHARA ASSERTED THAT
THE ISRAELI POLICY THAT "EVERYTHING IS NEGOTIABLE"
DOES NOT IMPRESS ANYONE, FOR SUCH FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

AS THE INADMISSIBILITY OF THE ACQUISITION OF TERRITORY
BY FORCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS
CANNOT BE NEGOTIABLE. BISHARA ENDORSED THE PLO POSITION
THAT" THERE CAN BE NO PEACE WITHOUT PALESTINIANS
AND NO PALESTINIANS WITHOUT THE PLO."

3. YUGOSLAV AMB PETRIC OFFERED THE HOPE THAT THE
GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL WILL NOT ADOPT DECISION WHICH WILL
FURTHER THE PROSPECTS FOR PEACE. HE STRESSED THE RIGHT
OF THE PALESTINIANS TO SELF-DETERMINATION, AND HE
REFERRED TO THE PLO AS THE "GENUINE AND LEGITIMATE
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE." PETRIC
DECLARED HE "CANNOT VISUALIZE" ANY COMPREHENSIVE, JUST,
AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITHOUT THE PLO AS
AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. CHINESE AMB CHEN CHU PRESENTED THE STANDARD CHINESE
POSITION ON THE MIDDLE EAST. HE PRASIED THE SUTRGGLE
OF THE PALESTINIANS AND THE ARABS TO REGAIN THEIR LOST
LANDS, AND HE LAUNCHED A POLEMICAL ATTACK ON"SUPERPOWER
MEDDLING" IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE ACCUSED THE SUPERPOWERS
OF WANTING A TURBULENT SITUATION OF "NO WAR, NO
PEACE" IN THE MIDDLE EAST SO THAT THEY MAY FEED ON
THE TENSION. BUT CHEN CHU QUOTED A CHINESE PROVERB
TO THE EFFECT THAT "A WICKED PERSON IS BOUND TO BRING
DESTRUCTION TO HIMSELF." IN A RELATED VEIN CHEN CHI
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EXPRESSED PLEASURE WITH THE "POWERFUL BLOW" RECENTLY
DEALT BY SOMALIA TO A SUPERPOWER'S AMBITION TO CONTROL
THE RED SEA AREA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. CHEN CHU
CONCLUDED BY DECLARING THAT ALL SUPERPOWER CONSPIRACIES
AIMED AT DIVIDING THE ARABS AND NULLIFYING THE RIGHTS
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ARE DOOMED TO FAILURE.

5. DEBATE ON THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION IS CURRENTLY
SCHEDULED TO CONITNUE THROUGH DECEMBER 1, BUT THE
NUMBER OF SPEAKERS INSCRIBED MAY FORCE THE DEBATE TO
SIPLL OVER INTO DECEMBER 2.

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Message Attributes

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